

INTERIMANNUALREPORT

on the

HEALTH

of the

BOROUGH

of

MORECAMBE AND HEYSHAM

for

the year 1 9 4 0.

Summary embodying particulars required by the
Ministry of Health - Circulars 2314 and 2067
dated 26th March, 1941 and 19th July, 1941.

I. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH.

Area (not including foreshore) in acres	3,665	<i>Lam</i>
Resident population at mid-year 1940 (Registrar-General's estimate)	37,070	<i>X</i>
Number of inhabited houses according to rate books (end of 1940)	10,678	<i>X</i>
Rateable value	£286,681	
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,163	

The social conditions are those of a holiday resort and are well described in the special brochure "The Morecambe and Heysham Holiday Pictorial".

CHIEF INDUSTRIES AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

The following industries are carried on in the area:- Engineering; Truck-making; Mineral water manufacturing; Razor blades and bakelite manufacturing; Bandage making; Furniture repairing, etc.

Unemployment has averaged during the year - 562. Highest in January (1,252); Lowest in August (201) and at December 1940 - 448.

Month	Men	Boys	Women	Girls	Total
January	634	20	544	54	1,252
February	643	27	514	51	1,235
March	458	5	476	25	964
April	323	2	326	22	673
May	191	9	58	17	275
June	191	-	85	9	285
July	199	4	89	1	293
August	112	14	64	11	201
September	106	2	151	33	292
October	153	11	238	31	433
November	108	7	253	29	397
December	142	8	278	20	448

The meteorological statistics for the year show that there were 1574 hours sunshine with monthly average of 131 hours. Highest in June - 336 hours; Lowest in February - 42 hours. Atmospheric pressure: average for year- 30.02"; Highest month - October 30.58"; Lowest month - November 29.67". Rainfall: Total for year 34.77" Monthly average 2.89"; Highest month - October 5.49"; Lowest month - June 0.39".

Prevailing wind: Direction of prevailing wind - southwest recorded on 65 days of the year. Shade temperature: Mean maximum for year - 54.7°F; Mean minimum for year - 42.9°F; Month with highest average temperature - June - 61.3°F; Lowest average temperature - January - 30.9°F.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
<u>Live Births</u> - Legitimate	316	156	160
Illegitimate	23	11	12
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	339	167	172

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population = 9.1

<u>Stillbirths.</u>	18	10	8
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Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births = 50

<u>Deaths.</u>	594	291	303
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Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population = 16.0

Deaths from puerperal causes.

	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.</u>
Puerperal and post- abortive sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other maternal causes	Nil	Nil
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	Nil	Nil

Death rate of infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	43
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	40
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	80
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	71
" " Measles (all ages)	Nil
" " Whooping cough (all ages)	1
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1

Causes of sickness noteworthy during the year have been

Measles epidemic	497 cases
Cerebro-spinal fever	44 "
Diphtheria	47 "

II. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Changes in Staff during the year.

During the year a Shops Inspector and a Clerk in the Cleansing Section of the department were called up for military service.

Laboratory Facilities.

County Laboratory, Preston.
Pathological Dept., Preston Royal Infirmary.
Lancaster & District Joint Isolation Hospital.

Ambulance Facilities.

One Corporation ambulance for general use.
One ambulance owned by the St. John Ambulance Association.
One fever ambulance provided by the Lancaster & District Joint Hospital Board.

Nursing in the Home.

District Nursing Association (3. Queens Nurses)

Treatment Centres & Clinics.

Eye)	
Dental)	School Clinic, Euston Road
Minor ailments)	

The following are under the authority of the County Council:-

Child Welfare	Parliament Street School
Ante-natal	School Clinic, Euston Road
Orthopaedic	Thurnham House, Lancaster
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Middle Street, Lancaster.
Venereal Diseases	Preston Royal Infirmary

Hospitals.

General and Maternity cases	Queen Victoria Hospital, Morecambe and Heysham.
Infectious cases	Lancaster & District Joint Isolation Hospital, Lancaster.
Smallpox cases	Smallpox Hospital, Littlefell, Lancaster.

Nursing Homes. - Registered

Medical, surgical and maternity.

III. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The daily expenditure during the year was 1,458,986 gallons.

The supply is satisfactory in quality and quantity. 39 chemical and bacteriological analyses were carried out during the year with satisfactory results. The degree of permanent hardness is 5 (Clarks method). There is no lead solvent action.

The steps taken against war risks have been the installation of three automatic and one manual chlorinators at the Filter Houses. One manual chlorinator is still in operation at Damas Ghyll Reservoir.

The following extensions have been effected during the year:-

<u>Month.</u>	<u>Bore</u>	<u>Yds.</u>	<u>Situation.</u>
Jan'y.	4"	40	Myrtle Grove off Limes Avenue
	4"	40	Oxcliffe Grove off Oxcliffe Road
Feb'y.	-	-	
March	4"	32	Myrtle Grove off Limes Avenue
April	7"	28	Oxcliffe Road
	6"	36	Ellesmere Road
	4"	60	Thornton Crescent
	3"	66	Grange Street
May	3"	20	Park Street and Grange Street
June	4"	100	Moneyclose Lane
July	3"	56	Transport Dept., Heysham Road
	4"	48	Whitby Road and Croft Street
	4"	84	Slyne Road
Aug.	4"	112	Lonsdale Road
	4"	40	Colwyn Avenue
	4"	56	Woodhill Lane
Sept.	4"	48	Whitby Road and Croft Street
	6"	28	Marine Road West (Battery corner)
Oct.	4"	68	Cyprus Road
Nov.	-	-	
Dec'r.	-	-	

Drainage and Sewerage.

Apart from a more intensive programme of cleaning and regrading of certain dykes and open water courses with a view to further assisting agricultural development, the chief works in hand have been Contracts Nod. 2, 3 and 5 of the complete new scheme. War conditions have seriously impeded the progress on these works and it may be that some or all will, of necessity, eventually have to close down.

The main new 60" dia. steel outfall sewer has been completed for the greater part of Albert Road where it is in tunnel, (1230 ft.) together with a further portion in Ellesmere Road (425 ft.)

At the new pumping station, work is well advanced on the new chambers and wells.

The most immediate benefit has probably accrued to the owners of the land adjacent to the new main dyke through Oxcliffe. Roughly, one half of this dyke is completed and attempts are now being made to complete the remaining section within the borough as far as Westgate.

Rivers and Streams.

There have been no developments during the year.

Closet Accommodation.

No. of houses on water carriage system	10,732
No. of fresh water closets	12,000
No. of waste water closets	36
No. of closets attached to middens	5

Public Cleansing.

No extensions or improvements have been carried out during the year.

Salvage.

Statistics for the Year.

<u>Material.</u>	<u>Weight.</u>			<u>Value.</u>		
	Tons	Cwts	Lbs.	£.	s.	d.
Paper	428	5	28	1838.	17.	5.
"Black" Scrap	35	4	28	77.	3.	8.
Baled Scrap	204	9	84	350.	0.	9.
Non-ferrous metals	6	18	34	235.	7.	4.
Textiles (including string)	17	4	90	125.	19.	9.
Bottles (910 doz.)	4	15	62	22.	11.	1.
Jars (764 doz.)	3	14	79	11.	0.	10.
Cullet (Broken glass)	2	-	-		10.	0.
Dust	4	-	-		4.	0.
Miscellaneous	3	11	-	11.	15.	7.
Bones	12	12	56	43.	6.	0.
Fertiliser	46	1	52	392.	16.	3.
	768	17	65	£3,109.	12.	8.

Material received from outside districts during the year:-

Paper	4	7	2
Tins, etc.	66	5	2

Amount of salvage sold by other departments:-

32	14	1	£178.	11.	0.
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Value of steam raised from refuse £330. 0. 0.

Swimming Baths.

Number of persons using the baths during the season 1940 was 167,004, of whom approximately 70% were juniors.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

70 premises were dealt with during the year by means of fumigation with sulphur and spraying with proprietary insecticides.

Schools.

The sanitary condition of and water supply to the schools was satisfactory.

Offensive Trades.

No. of premises registered, namely, 29 fish friers, 2 tripe dressers, 1. gut scraper and 1. fat melter. (Fish friers removed from list - 1st October, 1940).

Factories Act, 1937.

No action possible during the year.

Common Lodging Houses.

None on the register.

Houses let in lodgings.

None on the register.

Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.

12 inspections were made during the year.

Underground sleeping rooms.

No action required.

IV.

HOUSING.

85 new houses were erected during the year, none being the work of the local authority, or built with State assistance under the Housing Acts.

Overcrowding.

During the year conditions were abnormal owing to R.A.F. billeting, housing of evacuees and I.C.I. workpeople.

Clearance and improvement areas.

No action taken.

V. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The usual work was satisfactorily performed.

VI. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year there was an epidemic of measles, 497 cases being notified, 8 of which were admitted to hospital. There were no deaths. 74 cases of whooping cough were notified and there was one death. Pneumonia - 59 cases notified and 12 deaths. Diphtheria 47 cases notified and 4 deaths. Scarlet Fever 40 cases notified - no deaths. Cerebro-spinal fever - 44 cases notified - 5 deaths and 40 removed to hospital. Paratyphoid - 3 cases notified.

The following tables show the notifications of infectious diseases for the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

	AGE PERIOD IN YEARS												Total	Cases removed to hospital.	Deaths in hospital	Total deaths
	Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65 and over				
Scarlet Fever		1	2	2	3	20	7	1	4				40	23		
Diphtheria			1		1	26	9	2	7	1			47	44	4	4
Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid)								1	1		1		3	3		
Measles (ex- cluding Ger- man measles)	11	30	34	38	53	166	52	32	66	11	3	1	497	8		
Whooping Cough	5	8	8	10	13	28	1	1					74			1
Acute pneu- monia (pri- mary and influenza)		1	1	2	1	4	1	1	28	5	9	6	59			12
Puerperal Pyrexia									3	1			4	3		
Cerebro- spinal Fever	2	1	1			4	2	2	28	2	1	1	44	40	2	5
Acute Poliomyelitis						1							1	1		
Encaphalitis lethargica									1				1			1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2												2			
Erysipelas							1	2	1	1	5	3	13	2		
Totals	20	41	47	52	71	249	73	42	139	21	19	11	785	124	6	23

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
<u>Years.</u>								
0 - 1								
1 - 5			2					
5 - 10				1				
10 - 15			1	1				
15 - 20		2	2					
20 - 25		1						
25 - 35	5	7	1			1		
35 - 45	2	3				1	1	
45 - 55	3	1		1	2			1
55 - 65	5	1			1	2		
65 and upwards	2				3			
Totals	17	15	6	3	6	4	1	1
	32		9		10		2	

PORT SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

TABLE A.

I. Amount of Shipping entering the Port during the year 1940.

No. inspected by Medical Officer	No. inspected by Sanitary Inspector.	No. reported to be defective.	No. of Vessels on which defects were remedied.	No. of vessels reported as having or having had during voyage infectious disease on board.
	3			

TABLE B.

Omitted on Ministry of Health instructions.

III. SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY:

Water is obtained from the town supply for the port and for shipping.

No water vessels are employed; vessels taking in water from stand-pipes alongside.

IV. PORT SANITARY REGULATIONS, 1933:

- (1) Arrangements for dealing with Declarations of Health.
This is usually received by the Customs Officer and handed later to the Sanitary Authority.
- (2) Boarding vessels on arrival.
By Customs Officer and by Officer of Sanitary Authority.
- (3) Notification to the authority of vessels requiring special attention. Customs Officer notifies Medical Officer of Health by telephone.
- (4) Mooring stations designated under Act 10.
 - (a) Inner mooring. For cases of smallpox and typhus.
Easterly end of north side.
 - (b) Outer mooring. For cases of cholera, yellow fever and plague. At Lune Deep.
- (5) Particulars of any standing exemptions from provisions of Article 14.
All ordinary notifiable infectious diseases other than those specified under (4).
- (6) Experience of working of Article 16. No experience.
- (7) Arrangements for :-
 - (a) Premises and waiting rooms for medical examination.
No special premises have been provided. There is no foreign passenger traffic. Members of the crew would be examined on board.
 - (b) Premises for temporary accommodation of persons.
No special premises.
 - (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships.
A steam disinfectant is provided for bedding and clothing. Appliances and materials are available for the disinfecting of ships and this would be carried out by the Health Department staff.
 - (d) Hospital Accommodation.

A hospital provided by a Joint Board on which this Sanitary Authority is represented, is now available for all cases except smallpox.
For smallpox cases the Sanitary Authority has an agreement with the Lancaster Corporation for the reception of seaborne cases in their hospital. This agreement will continue until the Joint Board make suitable provision.
 - (e) Ambulance transport.

A special motor ambulance is available with attendants.

- (f) Supervision of contacts.
Contacts requiring to be kept under surveillance would be kept on board or accommodated at hospital.
- (8 & 9) Arrangements for bacteriological or pathological examinations of rats and other materials. Submitted to bacteriologists ordinarily employed by the Public Health Authority. Usually the Public Health Laboratories, Manchester University.
- (10) Venereal Diseases. No special arrangements for sailors. Facilities arranged by the County Council are available.
- (11) Arrangements for interment of dead. In cemeteries provided by the Sanitary Authorities.

TABLE C.

Cases of Infectious Disease landed from Vessels.

Disease.	No. of cases during the year.		No. of vessels concerned.
	Passengers	Crew	
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

TABLE D.

Cases of Infectious Disease occurring on vessels during the voyage but disposed of prior to arrival of vessel.

Disease.	No. of cases during the year.		No. of vessels concerned.
	Passengers	Crew	
Nil	Nil	Nil	

V. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS.

No special measures have been necessary, the port being remarkably free from rats.

VI. FOOD INSPECTION.

Periodical visits are made for the purpose of the Imported Food Regulations.

Visits are also made for the purpose of examining carcasses of animals slaughtered on board or after detention on landing.

MILK SAMPLES ANALYSED.

Nil